

USACE FINANCE CENTER
BIWEEKLY REPORT
PERIOD ENDING 28 APRIL 2000

CEFMS:

a. We are continuing to focus our effort on the conversion of the character based CEFMS forms to GUI. By COB 28 April we will have completed the conversion of all forms. We have completed the initial post conversion steps on 1,102 forms leaving 377 to go through that process. The CEFMS functionals are in a full testing mode. The "only" actions they are performing on day to day operations and support functions are "absolutes" related to out of balance conditions or a piece of functionality that is broken. All these occurrences then have to be processed through the GUI conversion to ensure that we stay in sync.

b. We released several changes to the Electronic Signature functionality, WINSIG, this week. One of the changes related to changing the "timeout" feature from 90 minutes to 30 minutes to comply with the USAAA/GAO/PWC CFO recommendation. Included in this release was the "drivers" to work with the electronic signature boards developed by Litronics for the use with the PC's that are being purchased with PCI slots. These drivers work for Windows 95,98 and NT.

c. We will be releasing a memorandum to the IM/RM communities on 1 May requesting information in regards to the capability, size of PC's, versus the minimum requirements to run CEFMS in the GUI environment. We are giving them a short suspense to tell us where they are and how they plan to ensure that the CEFMS users are provided the appropriate equipment.

d. We are also formulating a test plan to address a concern expressed by the IM folks in regards to the communications capability to handle the increased requirements of the CEFMS GUI. While our initial analysis of this issue indicates there will be a very small increase related to the CEFMS GUI mode versus the current CEFMS (character mode) we are continuing to work with the Network Communications experts at the Western Processing Center to assess and evaluate this area. Since the USACE Finance Center has the largest number of "continuous" CEFMS users we are planning some testing involving the UFC that should provide the basis to make appropriate projections for other locations and the network in total. This testing will also serve as the "beta" test for the converted code.

PROBLEM REPORTS/IMBALANCES:

a. The open problem report inventory is 878 versus 808 on the last report. The inventory includes 258 Priority #1 problem reports. The open inventory also includes 182 problem reports related to the CEFMS Modernization/GUI work management effort.

b. Forty-nine (49) of the sixty-two active databases have no imbalances, seven (7) have one, two (2) have three, one (1) has four, one (1) has five, and one (1) has six. One location has fifteen, the highest number of imbalances. The grand total of database imbalances across the system is 43 versus 19 on the last report.

ACCOUNTING OPERATIONS:

CONSOLIDATION OF OPERATING FINANCE AND ACCOUNTING FUNCTIONS:

UPCOMING CONSOLIDATIONS:

-----CURRENT SCHEDULE COMPLETE-----

NUMBER AND LOCATION OF ON BOARD PERSONNEL:

<u>LOCATION:</u>	<u>NUMBER:</u>
Huntsville	24
Millington	294
Washington	1
Other	1
DA Interns (Millington)	2
Total	322

DISBURSING WORKLOAD DATA:

PAYMENTS	As of 03/31/00	Current Month	Year To Date
BY CHECK:			
Checks Issued	154,778	22,779	177,557
Percent of Total	52%	45%	51%
Dollar Amount	\$1,724,618,316	\$222,406,044	\$1,947,024,360
BY EFT:			
Transfers Made	145,620	27,299	172,919
Percent of Total	48%	55%	49%
Dollar Amount	\$2,660,483,120	\$450,630,018	\$3,111,113,138

OTHER UFC ISSUES:

a. Mandatory Ethics Training will be presented in sessions conducted on 3 and 4 May. The Memphis District Office of Counsel will provide this training to about 180 UFC employees.

b. The local Federal Executive Association will hold its annual Employees of the Year Awards luncheon on 2 May. One UFC employee is nominated for the awards in the Technician category.

c. The UFC has begun planning for the annual organization day (Engineer Day) picnic scheduled for 16 June. Committees have been organized for the various tasks required and fund raising activities will be conducted to help defray some of the costs associated with the event.

d. The USACE Finance Center had three employees attend the U.S. Treasury OPAC (On Line Payment and Collections) training/conference in Washington, D.C. OPAC is the preferred means of processing disbursements and collections within government, similar to EFT for public vendors and government travelers. Discussion at the training/ conference included conversion to an OPAC WINDOWS environment. Training was beneficial to ensure that USACE is using OPAC to fullest technology. USACE Finance Center accountants found that USACE is having less problems with OPAC than most agencies due to controls implemented at the UFC and having OPAC Trading Partner Agreements (TPA) with each agency before OPAC transactions are initiated.

e. Mr. Herb Drake, UFC systems accountant, will conduct 5 classes in the Pulaski Building during the week 1-5 May on the CEEMIS report capability. The training will be on how to execute reports or obtain consolidated financial reports from CEEMIS. We also hope to obtain information on any additional reports required by program or project managers.

f. All USACE Finance Center accountants in the field reporting branch (CEFC-AO-F) were trained 25-28 April on executing and analyzing the daily CEFMS general ledger output to subsidiary out-of-balance reconciliation's in preparation of assuming responsibility from CEFC-S. The exact responsibilities of each office and the date to transfer the function will be decided in the next several weeks.